



FIJI HOCKEY NEWS

Volume 1

August 2009

FIJI HOCKEY FEDERATION

Inside this issue:

Pacific Cup	2
HPU Hotting Up	2
Sponsorship	2
Primary Schools	3
Oceania Cup 2009	3
Western Hockey	3
Player Profile	4

Special points of interest:

- * Eastgate Memorial 25th-27th September 2009
- * HPU Training to intensify.
- * Kaji hockey in the West revamped.
- * Have some hockey news that you would like people to know about, tell about it to us.

Secondary Schools Hockey Returns to Levuka

The old capital Levuka was a hive of activity for 17 schools from around the country when the Fiji Secondary Schools played their 11 a side and 7 a side hockey tournament on Friday 20th and Saturday 21st August 2009.

A handsome boost to the coffers by **Milo** ensured that the tournaments run smoothly and the 350 odd secondary school students were given the opportunity to display their hockey skills and showed healthy competition at two venues in Levuka.

Nasau Park and St John Cawaci hockey ground was used in the 11 a side competition due to the overwhelming numbers of teams that participated.

This year, for the first time, Tilak High School of Lautoka entered a girls team along with Nadi Muslim in both boys and girls competitions. Congratulations to both schools and we look forward to seeing you again next year.

In the boys division 11 a side, the Bhasin Cup, was retained by Marist Brothers High School in an exciting final against Natabua High School. The Westmere Trophy was handed back to defending champs, the girls of St Joseph's Secondary School.

Suva Grammar School was crowned the new 7-a-side boys champs taking out the Noel Cup by beating St John College 2-1 on penalty strokes in the final.

In the girl's division Natabua retained the Me-laia

Sandays trophy following their victory over Adi Cakobau School 3-2.

The inter district saw Levuka claim a double win in the boys and girls competition.

The Fiji Secondary School Association and the Fiji Hockey Federation take this opportunity to thank our sponsors Milo for their contribution in assisting in the development of hockey at this level and the people of Levuka for the great hospitality shown to all visiting students, parents and teachers.



Eastgate Memorial Tournament

2009 will be a milestone in the **Marist Hockey Club's** history books when they celebrate the **Crystal Anniversary** marking the 15th year that the club has brought to you and to hockey in Fiji, the annual **Eastgate Memorial**

Tournament from 25th - 27th September 2009.

Invitations to your hockey team to be part of this momentous Tournament on the 2009 hockey calendar will be distributed shortly.

Entries are limited to the

first 12 men's and 8 women's teams at a participation fee of \$70 per team. All entries will close on Friday 11th September 2008. For any queries, email Mara Apted at the following address: mara@rawlinsons-pacific.com

FIJI HOCKEY NEWS



Page 2

FIJI HOCKEY NEWS

Pacific Cup Returns to Fiji in December

Fiji will again play host to the Oceania Pacific Cup held at the National Hockey Centre from 5th to 12th December 2009.

Confirmed entries are: Australia Country Men and Women, Fiji Men and Women, Samoa Men and Women, Vanuatu. Oceania Hockey Federation (OHF) expects New Zealand's representatives to be finalised before the end of August.



Fiji's organizing committee comprising of Fiji Hockey Federation executive committee headed by President, Dr. Robin

Mitchell have commenced preparations for this major event on the 2009 hockey calendar.

Sponsorship is being sought from various business organizations to assist with this event. Anyone wishing to get more details on sponsoring the event or part of the event can contact Ms. Thomasina Ah Ben on 7110778.



High Performance Unit -HPU

The HPU program for 2009 currently runs on Wednesdays from 6-8pm, and has been running for the last 3 months. It will be increased to Mondays and Wednesdays from early October as we gear up for the Pacific Cup in December.

This HPU program has been running from 2008, and was set up to give our players an opportunity to further their game in a very competitive environment. We have a wide range of

players from beginners to senior National reps participating and it has benefitted the sport as can be seen in the National Club competitions. The HPU also gives the younger and newer players the opportunity to train and learn from the more experienced players, as well as from our 2 national

"All that is needed to attend the HPU sessions for now is enthusiasm"

coaches, Hector Smith Snr (men), and Duane Underwood (women).

All that is needed to attend the HPU sessions for now is enthusiasm, and a white and red (or dark) t-shirt along with your normal hockey gear. We are always keen to have more numbers as this means more competition for places in the National squads, which can only be good for the Country and hockey as a whole.

Sponsorship

Fiji Hockey Federation take this opportunity to thank all sponsors that have supported our efforts to develop junior hockey in Fiji.

Nestlé and FINTEL both assisted our primary school association this year by being part of both the league and the final tournament respectively.

Nestlé (MILO) again supported the recent Secondary School hockey tournament which saw a record number of secondary schools participate in the

annual hockey tournament held in the old capital. Not forgetting JR White for their continued support. VINAKA



FINTEL Primary Schools Tournament Great Success

The Suva Primary School competition concluded their 2009 season with a tournament sponsored by FINTEL, Fiji's International Telecommunications Provider. The tournament consisted of 4 different age groups namely Under 8, 10, 12 and 14 in both a combined girls and boys competition.

Hundreds of primary school children, parents, teachers and friends converged on the National Hockey Centre at Laucala Bay to witness Fiji's future stars take to the turf for two days of fun filled excitement for all.

Competition was evenly distributed among all schools. Veiuto Primary School, Holy Trinity, Marcellin Primary, International, John Wesley Primary, St Agnes and Stella Maris were schools that participated this year.

Winners of the age different age groups were as follows:

Under 8

Winners: Veiuto Runner Up: Veiuto



Under 10

Winners: Holy Trinity Runner Up: St Agnes

Under 12

Winners: Veiuto Runner Up: Holy Trinity

Under 14

Winners: Holy Trinity Runner Up: Stella Maris



Oceania Cup News



Invercargill hosts the 2009 Oceania Hockey World Cup Qualifying Tournament from the 25 - 29th August. Australia, New Zealand

and Samoa are be taking part in the tournament which began on Tuesday 25th with Australia and Samoa playing each other in both the Men's

and Women's competition. Fiji had decided not to enter this year's competition because of the extra costs of travel from Auckland to Invercargill and outfitting teams for winter in the coldest



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town in NZ.

Australia booked a double victory over New Zealand in the preliminary round of the Oceania Cup.

The Hockeyroos defeated their opponents 2-1, while the Kookaburras booked a 5-2 victory.

Western Hockey

Junior Development; Ilaitia (Lesco) Veidreyaki of Mates club has been coaching children at the Nadovu grounds, so bring your children down.

According Sports Venture, an English exchange programme, hockey has been the most popular sport amongst the youngsters in the west.

Secondary Schools; Lautoka Hockey Association (LHA) has been instrumental in the running of games

and tournaments for secondary schools here in the west in preparation for their Levuka trip and it has been very successful. This lead to Natabua High School girls retaining the 7-a-side title and Natabua High School boys making it into the finals against Marist in the 11-a-side. Nadi Muslim sending a boys and girls team in the last minute, wowed the crowd as first timers. In the IDC, the western girls came 3rd and the boys came 2nd.

Tournaments/New Teams: LHA has been organizing 7's & 11's tournaments with prize monies and this has seen new teams participate; to the likes of Waiyavi & Naidrodro.



FIJI HOCKEY FEDERATION

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To efficiently & effectively promote,
develop & continually improve hockey in Fiji.

VISIT US ON THE WEB

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Contributors: Duane Underwood, Valerie Finau, Oceania Hockey
Photographs: Courtesy of Allyson Dutta, Fiji Live, FIH / Photosport / Hockey New Zealand

“To continue to develop hockey in Fiji from grass-root to elite level in a more structured manner and see Hockey in Fiji re-instated as local, regional and international sporting force which would improve our ranking to allow us to compete at the 2012 Olympic Games”.

Player Profile— Richard Sekiguchi

Richard brings a wealth of experience to his team and also likes to use his speed and agility to his advantage.

D.O.B.: 21st May, 1983

Nickname: Guchi

Position: Mid-fielder

Club Shirt Number: 15

Club Debut: 2002

Hometown: Suva City

Occupation: Engineering Technologist

When did you start playing hockey: I first picked up a hockey stick in primary school (Class 2) but left it for a while and started again in Suva Grammar School in 2000.

What is the hardest thing to give up during training? Time with family and friends. But I'm lucky to have a supportive family.

Do you have any sporting and/or non-sporting heroes? Robbie Hammond of the Australia Men's Hockey Team – an awesome mid-fielder!



What is the worst injury you have suffered during your Hockey career?
Hmmm, haven't really had any major injuries during my hockey career just a few

strains here and there nothing a run couldn't shake off ☺

What are your post hockey career ambitions? Would enjoy coaching hockey.

Name one team mate who has an unusual habit and/or special talent: Robert Wojcik – “never say die” attitude on the field.

If you didn't play hockey, what would you do? Can't even imagine life without hockey but probably be focusing more on family, studies, & work.

Do you play other sports? I enjoy playing basketball and touch rugby whenever I can.

What is your greatest fear/ phobia?

Failure

What can't you live without? My family, friends and my girlfriend

How would you spend your last \$20?
Buying a lottery ticket J

The first thing you do when you wake up is:

Thank God for another day in my life.

